

# DODGE CITY TIMES.

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## COAL IN COLORADO.

The Denver (Col.) Journal of Commerce reports the existence in Gunnison county, until recently known as the Ute Indian Reservation, of a bed of coal thirty feet thick, covering in one place sixteen hundred acres.

It is situated on a small stream tributary to the Uncompaggre river, about eight miles northwest from the Las Pinos Indian agency, and one hundred and seventy-six miles southwest from the city of Denver. The coal crops out along the mountain side about eighty feet above the plain; where exposed it shows a thickness of thirty feet of solid coal. The Journal says that the coal is semi-bituminous and of a jet black color, and adds:

"It has been analyzed by Professor Wuth of the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., and pronounced by him to be of an excellent quality. It is almost entirely void of sulphur, and will smelt iron without coking. It has been used by the miners in that vicinity for the purpose of dressing their steel drills, and pronounced by them to be better than charcoal for that purpose. There is no doubt, taking into consideration the thickness of this vein and the extent of the deposit, that it is the largest vein of coal yet christened on this continent. It was discovered about two years ago, when the Indians held possession, by some prospectors who associated themselves together so as to hold it until such a time that the Indians should be removed, and the land thrown open for entries and location, which has now been done."

The coal mines of Colorado will prove more valuable than the gold and silver mines. The immense coal beds will supply the entire western country. In western Kansas the fuel consumption is a great item in the expense of the household. The development of new coal mines in Colorado and the reduction of transportation on railroads ought to make the price of coal a fair consideration. Five and six dollars per ton would be a reasonable price. We are confident cheap coal will soon be supplied from Colorado.

## THE INDIANS MUST WORK.

The following circular is forwarded to United States Indian agents:—In compliance with instructions received from the honorable secretary of the interior your attention is called to section eight of "An act making appropriations for current and contingent expenses of the Indian department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes for the fiscal year 1883, and for other purposes," approved May 17, 1882, which reads as follows: "That the secretary of the interior shall cause such Indians as are now being subsisted in whole or in part by appropriation not required in the discharge of treaty obligations to be notified that he will recommend to congress at its next session the minimum of such appropriation, that in consequence thereof their future support will depend more upon their own exertion. In compliance with the above you will give your Indians the notice required by the act of congress and assure them that while the government is disposed to treat them kindly and even generously, and to extend to them every needed assistance to enable them to make a comfortable living for themselves and families, yet they must remember there is no treaty or other obligation on the part of the government to support them, and that what they are now receiving is purely a gift and there must come a time when they will be expected to labor for their own support, the same as white men do. Say to them that labor is not degrading, but on the contrary is ennobling, and that if they ever expect to become as rich and powerful as the white race they must learn lessons of industry and economy. H. P. PRICE, Indian Commissioner.

## FUTURE BEEF PRICES.

In all the great cattle marts of the country there has been during the present season a great falling off in the demand for feeding cattle as compared with previous seasons. This has been largely accounted for by the scarcity and consequent high prices of corn, and until recently by the high price at which cattle were held, and also owing to the long continued spell of dry weather during the past summer. As the prospects for a bountiful corn crop in this country are very promising and have been so for some little time, and as the price of feeding cattle has steadily fallen until at present they are held at nearly the same prices as ruled a year ago, and as the recent copious, warm rains have brought out a fine growth of grass, it would seem as though this market would begin to show some signs of life. Strange as it may seem, with all these inducements, feeders still continue to manifest no disposition to invest and so slight is the demand that it is beginning to attract a great deal of attention at all the live stock markets. The reason for their action is not very apparent, but will probably be found to be an exaggerated idea in regard to the price of the coming corn crop, which they fancy will not sell for less than 45 or 50 cents per bushel, and also a hope that the price of feeding cattle will fall to even lower figures than at present. There is no question but that they are doomed to be disappointed in both of these propositions, for at present the indications are that more corn will be sold under 30 cents than over it, and considering the lateness of the season, and the very few cattle which have thus far been taken by the feeders, there is little hope of values going lower, but on the contrary excellent prospects of higher prices. A year ago in these yards, it is safe to say, that there were ten feeding cattle sold to every one at the present time, and this is only a sample of what is being done throughout the whole country. The question is really getting to be quite serious, for unless there occurs a very strong reaction within the next thirty or sixty days, the price of beef next spring will be much higher than has been the case at any time during the past season. Now is the accepted time to buy, and those who hold off in the vain hope of still lower prices, will, to use a slang expression, "get badly left."—K. C. Journal.

## THE JAMES OVATION.

Missouri has a grand picnic just now. Frank James, the notorious Missouri outlaw, surrendered to Gov. Crittenden last week. James was put in the Independence jail, but was subsequently released on bail. Gov. Crittenden, it is believed, will grant the outlaw a pardon. Gov. Charles P. Johnson and Col. John F. Phillips have been employed to defend James. A special account says:

He is confident if he be tried on any single charge alone he will not be convicted, and although having received no promises he seems to hope that in case of conviction clemency will be shown because of his voluntary action. He says that his desire is to lead henceforth a quiet life with his family, and instead of an outlaw's life to aid in the protection of the State against criminals. He declares that from April, 1877, until April, 1881, he lived quietly with his wife upon a rented farm in Tennessee, near Nashville. This, he asserts, he can prove by staunch business men of Nashville. Regarding his whereabouts however since April, 1881, he is silent. He says, however, that he read the news of the shooting of James in the New York Herald the morning of its publication, indicating that he was in that vicinity and admits that he has

been east of the Alleghenies and in Kentucky during the past year. Regarding the various crimes charged against him he declines to speak, thinking this not the proper time, but declares that he has been much maligned; that he has never written a letter which appeared in print, and never threatened vengeance for his brother's death. As the train swept through the timbered country, James spent much of his time looking out of the windows. Pointing to the wooded hill and thicket, and grown pastures, he remarked: "That's mighty good bushwhacking country. I know every foot of that ground. Many a time have I watched from those hills and seen the soldiers pass up and down." At stations all the way from Jefferson City, Mr. Farr stated, the same strained interest was manifested, and the depot platforms were crowded with expectant people, men, women and children. Speaking of the scene at Jefferson City yesterday, Mr. Farr said it was one of strange interest long to be remembered. The voluntary prisoner was the coolest man in the hall where the Governor, surrounded by a number of officials, received him, a man who has lived for years moving about through the heart of the country with an enormous price on his head. He bears the mark of many a battle. He has seventeen scars to show for as many wounds. He has been twice shot through the body with minie balls. The last member of the most remarkable gang of bandits that ever infested the country, he comes at last voluntarily, to place himself within the hands of the law. When the train reached Independence the crowd fell back upon the meeting of James with his mother, wife and child, a boy of four years. Mrs. Samuels wept aloud, and her son's eyes were wet. The wife seemed to think only of the joy of meeting her husband again. The child looked wonderingly from his father's shoulder upon the scene. The waiting officers joined the party, when they drove to the court house.

With all the sentiment which necessarily surrounds a history so mysterious, and an event so dramatic, there rests the conviction among the people generally that the law should take its impartial course, and justice be meted as seems best. The feeling expressed, however, has nothing of open violence, and bears no possible danger of any attempt in that direction.

Owing to the fact that the country about Harper is so generally plowed up, the Comanche pool, as well as those from other ranges west of here, will drive their last shipments of beefs to Dodge City on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, and ship from that point. The distance to Kansas City is 100 miles greater than from Harper, but the freight is the same from either place. A storm or stampede in Harper county subjects cattle men to great risks, as the county is dotted over with unfenced farms and there is scarcely room to pen a bunch of cattle when they are once driven there. The citizens of Harper have shown good judgment and by their liberality have held the shipping point at their town for the past two years; but there is a general disposition among cattle men to ship from some other point as the risks are too great and the accommodations insufficient for the shipment of large herds.—Medicine Lodge Index.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Co. and Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express, have offered a reward of \$15,000 for the capture and conviction of the men who robbed the Santa Fe express train, near Granada, Friday night of last week. The gang who did the work numbered about fifteen, and the reward will be paid in full or by portion, as the robbers are run to earth, \$1,000 for each man who had a hand in the business.

## THE RAILROAD DISASTER.

The investigation of Ed. Campbell, the brakeman who it is alleged was responsible for the Salem disaster, was begun in Hutchinson on Monday, before Justice Higley. Campbell is ably defended by Maj. Warner of Kansas City, and H. Whitehead and A. R. Scheble, of Hutchinson, while the State is also ably represented by Judge Houk, county attorney, assisted by Judge Brown. A large number of railroad men are present as witnesses, and from the tediousness in taking down evidence, it seems probable that they will remain all week. J. M. Hallet, conductor of the Cannon Ball, was on the stand six and a half hours. His testimony was in substance as follows: "I was passing from the second to the third coach when I felt a heavy jar; I knew something had been struck, and the train suddenly stopped, I stepped off and met Mr. Cochran, of No. 6, who walked up and said, 'How is this?' I replied, 'That is what I want to know.' We walked to the rear end of the train and met Ed. Campbell with a lamp in his hand. He said, 'It is all my fault and I did it.' I then said, 'What were you thinking of?' He said 'I don't know. Just had the ball straight. It struck when the ball was straight up.' And I understood him to say, 'I guess I had better skip.'"

While the effect of this testimony is strongly against Campbell he is not at all uneasy, but is confident of changing the current very quickly when he begins with his witnesses. The railroad men are nearly as a unit in sympathy with Campbell. His mother is present.

The Pawnee Irrigation Company has been merged into the Pawnee Irrigation and Water Power company with the same charter members, including others. The proposed line or route is the same as the first company proposed, only the line will be extended as far east as the city of Hutchinson, making a line eighty-eight miles in extent. The waters of the Arkansas, Coon, Pawnee and Walnut are to be used for the purpose, and it is supposed that every mile of the ditch can irrigate about 1,000 acres of land and at one dollar per acre will bring into the company's treasury \$88,000 per annum. It will be the best paying property in this state as almost every section is already settled, and the water at one dollar per acre can be constructed now. It will make the cities along the route beautiful to behold, add permanently to their business and double their population. A new machine has been ordered from Chicago, the surveyors are on the line and every effort will be made to push the work.—Chronoscope.

A sudden demand for fractional currency has sprung up, and the treasurer of the United States is kept busy shoveling out half dollars, quarters and dimes. The demand is said to grow out of the increasing prosperity of the South. The colored people are said to like silver money, and planters, manufacturers and store keepers are constantly clamoring through the banks for fresh supplies. There will be no difficulty in supplying any possible demand in this direction.

One dozen scrapers have arrived for the Kansas Irrigating company, at Garden City, and the work of enlarging their ditch will be pushed to an early completion.

No Indians, grasshoppers, buffalo flies or squash bugs are committing depredations in the state, but the cabbage worm holds his own.

Wichita is still filing evidence against her saloon keepers.